

community, Tom Flores has truly been a role model, not only for Latinos but all fans of the NFL.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Tom Flores. We recognize his successful career and contributions to society, look forward to his enshrinement in the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

RECOGNIZING REGINA WILLIAMS

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 6, 2021

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Regina Williams on being named 2020 Historian of the Year by the Bedford County Historical Society.

Throughout the past year, Ms. Regina Williams has kept the history of Bedford County alive through her work to maintain social media pages dedicated to preserving our local history.

Her love of Bedford County goes beyond social media, as she has led hikes to the historical salt cave in Sweet Root Park, as well as the Imes Cemetery. She has also created education programs about Southampton Township for the Bedford County Leadership Group. Furthermore, Ms. Regina Williams has worked tirelessly to restore the Point Pleasant School in Southampton Township.

Ms. Regina Williams' work has greatly impacted the people of Bedford County for the better and her commitment to sharing our community's history is unmatched. On behalf of the 13th District of Pennsylvania, I congratulate Ms. Regina Williams on being named 2020 Historian of the Year and wish her continued success in her work to tell the story of Bedford County.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF MR. HIRAM "H" BOWLIN

HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 6, 2021

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Mr. Hiram "H" Bowlin, who is a distinguished veteran that served our country in World War II and recently celebrated his 101st birthday on June 7, 2021. I extend my sincerest gratitude to Hiram for his dedicated service to our country, and I further thank him for his continued service to our community. I am delighted to wish him a very happy and joyful 101st birthday.

Hiram's service began when he was sent to Europe and assigned to the 94th Infantry, which was a part of the 3rd Army commanded by the great General George Patton. This infantry saw a total of 209 days of combat and participated in campaigns in Northern France, Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsace, and Central Europe. Hiram served as a Communications Sergeant and was responsible for stringing "commo wire" to different command posts during the war.

He was discharged January 16, 1946, and he returned home to the U.S. on February 6, 1946. For his service, Hiram has been award-

ed the Bronze Star, the World War II Victory Medal, Good Conduct Medal, and the M-1 Rifle Marksmanship Badge Medal, among other awards.

Hiram is described by his friends as a man of God who is beloved by his community. He often exchanges a warm smile and friendly wave with his neighbors as they pass by his home. He spent his 101st birthday surrounded by his friends and loved ones and even got the opportunity to ride in an antique fire truck that is as old as Hiram himself. When asked about the secret to living a long life by a local reporter, Hiram jokingly quipped, "Keep breathing."

Hiram is a blessing to everyone that knows him, and he has made a large impact on our community. He is known as a kind, caring man who loves Jesus. Veterans like Hiram are the backbone of our nation, and we owe them our sincerest gratitude. His service and sacrifice are a testament to his character and his deep love for our country. I want to extend my deepest thanks to Hiram for his dedicated service to our nation, and once again, wish him a very happy birthday.

KAT DOUGLAS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 6, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kat Douglas for being awarded the 2020 Arvada Chamber of Commerce's Chairman's Choice Award.

As the Director of Jefferson County Community and Workforce Development, she has led the workforce, housing, homeless and Veterans program while supporting the economic vitality of the community and region. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Kat and her teams supported the ongoing response and recovery efforts, along with their strong partner network, across Jefferson County. Specifically, Kat and her team helped manage the small business grant program, the Business and Economic Recovery Task Force, and the five-star certification program. The five-star certification program allowed certified businesses to open at a larger capacity, providing them with the ability to serve more customers and helping their bottom line following a difficult year. The process helped the Jefferson County community identify businesses as safe and responsible during times of uncertainty and helped jumpstart the economic recovery for businesses that were hit hard during the COVID-19 pandemic and the region in general.

Kat's work to help businesses and the economy of Jefferson County—as well as her more than 17 years in Jefferson County government—is remarkable and clearly demonstrates her as a leader in our community and someone works hard to serve the needs of our residents and businesses. Thank Kat Douglas for her hard work and dedication to our community, and congratulate her on receiving the Arvada Chamber's Chairman's Choice Award.

COMMEMORATING ASSYRIAN MEMORIAL DAY

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 6, 2021

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Assyrian Memorial Day, which is observed annually on August 7 to honor the memory of all those Assyrians who have fallen victim to genocide, other mass atrocities, and persecution. I am very proud that the Second Congressional District of Massachusetts is home to a vibrant Assyrian-American community—a proud reminder of survival and perseverance in the face of mass atrocities and extreme injustice.

The Genocide that we are commemorating today is a history of persecution and the systematic destruction of a people, based on their religion and ethnicity. It is a history shared with Armenians and Hellenes, or Greeks, perpetrated between 1914 and 1923. This is the period that began to form the world's modern-day understanding of crimes against humanity and genocide, culminating 20 years later in the atrocities committed against the Jewish people of Europe.

Madam Speaker, today is a moment to remember the hundreds of thousands of Assyrians who perished during this horror were irreplaceable human beings. Each individual—man or woman, children or the elderly—were part of a family, with dreams and hopes for the future—and all those hopes, all of those dreams, all of those "possibilities" were erased. This was done deliberately. This was a choice made by leaders at all levels of the Ottoman Empire and those who took charge immediately after the empire's demise.

The Assyrian people and the Assyrian Catholic Church have existed for over 2,000 years. In their ancestral homes of the Middle East—in Iraq, Syria, and Turkey—they lived and worshipped, established communities, and broke bread together, centuries before Islam was born in the region.

Sadly, the minority religions and peoples of the Middle East are facing yet another test, as they are again being persecuted and targeted for extinction. Most of the world's 2 to 4 million Assyrians still live around their traditional homelands, although they are frequently displaced and fleeing violence and war like so many others in the region. It is estimated that some 60 percent of Iraqi Assyrians have been forced to abandon their homes and leave the country since the U.S. invaded Iraq in 2003.

Today, tens of thousands of Assyrians in Northern Iraq have fled persecution at the hands of ISIS, which has attacked Assyrian villages, killing or imprisoning hundreds. And with ISIS has come another form of genocide—the war against the history of mankind—with the destruction of archaeological sites, ancient books, artifacts, works of art, houses of worship, museums, centuries-old Bibles, and relics. Yet, we can take hope from the survival of towns like Alqosh in northern Iraq and the Nineveh Plains. People survive and the culture and memory survive.

We cannot sit idly by and watch this destruction continue. We need to provide aid and protection to these communities, these villages and towns—certainly for the sake of the Assyrian and other Christian minorities defiantly